

Application/Control Number: 10/692,678  
Art Unit: 2800

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CLMPTO

04/06/05

Cancelled claims 1-37

38. (new) A probing member for use in an apparatus for determining surface topology of a teeth portion, having a sensing end face for placing proximal to the teeth portion and being in the form of an elongated transparent body having a front face, an end mirror, and top, bottom and side walls extending therebetween, said sensing end face being associated with said bottom wall's outer surface adjacent said end mirror, said bottom wall having a front section extending inwardly from said front face transversely to said top wall and a rear section substantially co-directional with said top wall, said front face being inclined relative to said top wall so as to ensure that light beams incident on the front face perpendicularly thereto impinge said top wall at an angle providing their total internal reflection therefrom and further bouncing, by means of total internal reflection, between the top wall and said rear section of the bottom wall towards said end mirror to be redirected thereby towards said sensing end face.

39. (new) A probing member according to Claim 38, wherein said sensing end face is in the form of a transparent plate fixed to said bottom wall's outer surface and spaced therefrom by an air gap.

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40. (new) A probing member according to Claim 38, which, when seen in its side view, has a thickness that is essentially greater along said front section of the bottom wall than along said rear section of the bottom wall.

41. (new) A probing member for use in an apparatus for determining surface topology of a teeth portion, the probing member having a sensing end face for placing proximal to the teeth portion and being in the form of an elongated transparent body having a front face, an end mirror, and top, bottom and side walls extending therebetween, said sensing end face being in the form of a transparent plate fixed to said bottom wall's outer surface and spaced therefrom by an air gap.

42. (new) A probing member according to Claim 39, which, when seen in its side view, has a thickness that is essentially greater along said front section of the bottom wall than along said rear section of the bottom wall.

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